

# Marlow Allotments Association

## Minutes of the Committee meeting Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 @ 3 The Chase

Present :- Mr F. Tillier (Chair), Mrs S. Miller (Secretary), Mrs M Talbot (Treasurer), Mr P. Cooper, Ms D. Bagge, Mr J. Stilliard (Minutes)

1. **Apologies for absence:** None received.
2. **Appointment of minutes secretary:** John Stilliard was appointed minutes secretary.
3. **Minutes of the committee meeting held Wednesday 9th January 2019**
  - 3.1. **Chiltern road parking.** The notice has been produced but needs to be put up. Action SM
  - 3.2. **Website.** Liaison continues; MT said that she had tried the King's Seen Icon on the website but it had failed, she contacted the Website manager re this and he is looking into it.
  - 3.3. **Discussion on Plot size units.** This will be overtaken by events when the plots are re-measured.
  - 3.4. **Rent increase.** This will not be known until the MTC meeting (Post meeting note it has now been confirmed that there will be no increase.)
  - 3.5. **Raffle.** This will be discussed and hopefully confirmed at the AGM.
  - 3.6. **Events.** These will be put into the newsletter.
  - 3.7. **Car Park Signs.** Debbie needs to provide these. **Action SM to chase.**
  - 3.8. **HH plot assistance.** 4 people assisted the improvement of a plot at HH.
  - 3.9. **Tenant list.** This has been sent out.
  - 3.10. **Repairs at HH & FP.** HH:- Debbie has quotes for the fence line which should be complete by the end of March. She has quotes for contractors to clear the Berwick road area as it too dangerous to let as it is. FP – the fence is still not fixed; **DB to chase this.**
4. **Matters arising from the minutes (if not included below) FT comments re Leylandii:** FT said that the previous minutes were incorrect and that it should have been Richard Bailey not the home owner that MTC should be writing to resident.
5. **Treasurer's report including membership update.** MT tabled the financial report and went through it in detail. The report was accepted.
6. **Waiting lists & vacant plots.** Vacant:- FP\*2 & HH \*11. Waiting:- FP \*0 & HH\*1
7. **Newsletter hand/email delivery options**

Discussed. Currently there are @50 people who have not provided an email address. SM suggested trying to ring them. It was decided that those who had not provided an email address could obtain them from committee members; they will also be put in the notice boards. The next newsletter will have a note saying that future issues can be collected from committee members for those without email addresses.
8. **Events in 2019. Orchid talk & camera demo, also planned is BBQ in April & June and Dahlia talk in August:** Interest in the Orchid and the Wine talks was still low. The Dahlia talk may have to be delayed. There is interest in the security camera and this is to go ahead for members only. MT said that she had met one of the allotment tenants who seemed to be knowledgeable about websites and producing flyers. She will talk things through with her. Inviting non-members to talks was discussed – it was suggested that we could charge non-members more – like other societies. DB asked if it would be possible to get the speaker from Waterperry gardens back to give his talk on pruning fruit trees. FT will look at this but warned that he was not cheap.
9. **Ex Play Area Foxes Piece :** Awaiting MTC planning meeting decision. Post meeting note – ‘there are still no formal proposals from Councillors at present.’
10. **Advertising agreement – PC to bring along the draft advert.** PC stated that he was withdrawing the request for an advertisement.
11. **My Marlow Website – draft for approval :** Agreed that the Advert was Ok and that it should be put on the My Marlow website. In addition MT to send the advert to PC for putting on 2 additional websites :- Marlow Facebook and ‘It's a Marlow Thing’. There are about 15K Facebook members in Marlow apparently.

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12. **Marlow Allotment site history:** Ongoing.

13. **AOB**

MT said that she felt that someone on the committee should be responsible for the Website to allow them to respond to our needs. The host website we use has raised the prices for hosting and registration (£182 for 2 years); MT has found an alternative which was cheaper (£52/year after the first free year). **Action on MT to pursue this.** MT asked about the tenancy agreement and adding mention of vandalism and waste dumping into it. SM said that she would check that MTC have this in hand. **Action SM.**

SM asked whether the water should be put on now – Agreed that it should be turned on & checked for leaks. **Action SM & FT**

Fred said that there had been 2 complaints about payment for the allotments. Debbie has contacted the people concerned and the problem will be resolved.

**High Heavens fee** – As there will be a charge for taking waste to the local dump wef 01.04.19 it was agreed that SM would arrange a Working Party Meeting with the MTC as a matter of urgency to discuss the options and a strategy for vacant plots left with excessive waste material. Action SM Judging. It was asked when we should book the 2 judges for their 1st inspection– the response is May. It was requested that the dates are put on the notice boards so everyone knows the dates. Denise asked about when the inspection of neglected plots would be done – the response is at the end of April.

**Action SM**

14. **Dates of next meeting – Possibly June 5<sup>th</sup>:** The next meeting will be Wednesday 5th June 2019.